

LOCAL POLICE CAPTURE BURGLAR AND HIS BOOTY

Houston's Store Robbed Early Last Evening of
Goods Valued at \$200--H. Verner, a
Carpenter, Makes Confession.

HIGHBARGER SECURED THIEF AFTER LIVELY CHASE

3 cameras, each worth \$20, \$ 60
One camera, value at..... 40
One camera, value at..... 25
One camera, value at..... 12
Six razors, total value..... 15
Seven revolvers, total value 60
Total.....\$242

The above list of articles represents the booty secured by H. Verner, a bold burglar, who broke into the store of F. J. Houston on Gold avenue, between 8 and 9 o'clock last evening, and who at 9:30 o'clock the same evening, but one-half hour after the crime was committed, languished in a cell in the Albuquerque city prison.

Watched His Chance.

About 8 o'clock last evening Verner stood on the corner of Gold avenue and Second street. He was engaged in watching the Houston store, according to his confession to Chief McMillin. At about 8:30 o'clock the store was closed for the night by W. C. Ewing. Verner watched Mr. Ewing start for home, and he immediately circled into the alley. With a chisel the burglar pried open the rear window in the store and climbed inside. He selected six costly kodaks and carrying them to the open window, laid them outside in the alley, while he placed a half dozen razors in his pockets, together with six revolvers, two in each pocket of his coat. Verner left the store undetected. Picking up the kodaks he carried them down the alley to the viaduct, where he laid three of them down until he could get to his room with the other three. Verner hurried on through the night and reached his lodging place on South Second street.

Highbarger a Sprinter.

Depositing the stolen articles in a trunk, the culprit retraced his steps to the viaduct. He picked up the largest of the cameras, the one valued at \$40, by the way, and was walking away with it, when Patrolman G. W. Highbarger chanced to pass by. He noticed Verner, and became suspicious that the man was not all right, started after him. As soon as Verner discovered he was being pursued, he started to run. So did Officer Highbarger. The policeman is a heavyweight, but Verner soon discovered that he was capable of going some. The policeman commanded the man to stop, but he ran all the faster. "I was tempted to shoot him," said Officer Highbarger, "but refrained from so doing. I finally chased him into an alley near the Albuquerque laundry on West Silver avenue.

SENT A BULLET INTO HIS HEAD

(Continued from page 1.)

east corner of the room, the bedding undisturbed, showing that the old soldier had not retired the night previous.

In the center of the room was the rocking chair, with the deceased sitting in it, facing the window on the east. A small writing table stood on the south side of the room, upon which was a writing tablet, with the note, "I did it. No one to blame. Goodbye--Sommers" upon the front page, which was still attached to the tablet.

Suicide Carefully Planned.

The old man had evidently made all arrangements for the suicide, as he called upon J. C. Baldridge yesterday morning and deposited with him the keys to his home, together with \$35 in money. This caused Mr. Baldridge to become uneasy concerning the old man, and when he failed to call upon Mr. Baldridge this morning, the latter went to Somers' home about 11 o'clock, making the gruesome discovery as related above.

Yesterday afternoon W. W. Sleight, who had been acquainted with the old man for many years, called upon him at his home and chatted with him for some time. During the conversation Mr. Sleight stated that the old man said nothing whatever to lead one to think he contemplated suicide, but says that the old soldier complained of pains in his legs and expressed the fear that he might some day become paralyzed. In his talk, he articulated, however, with some difficulty.

Practices With Revolver.

Shortly after Mr. Sleight left the old man, he was seen by Mrs. W. E. Richter, of 415 South Fourth street, and a lady roomer, who live in the house adjoining that occupied by Somers, out in the yard practicing with his revolver. These ladies state that he seemed to be aiming mice, as he would crouch down, peering around an old pile of lumber in one part of the yard, and occasionally fire the pistol.

This morning Charles Bonsall, who called at the house for the purpose of seeing the old man, found the door locked and a card bearing the notice, "Please call J. C. Baldridge." Somers' locked up in fear that something was wrong, he notified Mr. Baldridge, who immediately went to the house, discovering the old man dead.

The deceased was an old soldier, and drew a monthly pension of \$12. In addition to this, he worked at odd jobs as a carpenter. He came to Albuquerque some time in 1882, owing to the death of a brother, who was killed in that year on the Southern Pacific railroad. As far as known, he has no relatives in Albuquerque, and until his will and papers, which he deposited Tuesday with Mr. Baldridge, were opened, it will be impossible to ascertain where his relatives live, although a letter on the table in his room, received by him December 7, is signed, "Your cousin, Clara S. Worth." The letter was written December 3, from No. 5, Emmons place, Bideford, Me. There was also a copy of the St. Johnsbury, (Vt.) Ex-

just in time to see him drop the kodak."

Confessed His Guilt.

Verner was placed under arrest and locked up. He said that he had purchased the camera from a Mexican for \$3, but later confessed to the burglary. Officer Highbarger went back to the viaduct and found the other two cameras. Later, Chief McMillin and the policeman went to Verner's room, opened his trunk, and recovered the remainder of the spoils, which were brought to police headquarters and identified by Mr. Houston. Excepting two revolvers, everything was intact. Verner was unable to account for the two missing weapons, but this money, he said, he dropped in his flight from the policeman.

Chief McMillin found numerous carpenter tools in Verner's room. He has formed the opinion that they might be the ones which were stolen a few evenings ago at the new Romero block on First street. Verner claims he bought them, however, his occupation being that of a carpenter. He informs the police that he has been in Albuquerque since the first of last October. He is a native of Germany and talks English brokenly.

Before moving to the South Second street boarding house, Verner said he stopped at the Lindell and Majestic rooming establishments. He worked for several contractors, among them, A. W. Hayden, G. Gustafson and the Santa Fe railroad company. He was discharged yesterday by Mr. Gustafson for inefficiency, and claims that being out of work prompted him to turn burglar.

Probably Other Stolen Goods.

Chief McMillin found a half dozen pawn tickets in Verner's effects, which Verner explained were receipts for articles he was purchasing on time. He has one fine Winchester rifle in his room and pawnbroker's tickets indicate that he was buying a Mauser pistol. "I was planning going to the state of Washington soon to hunt," the burglar said, in explaining the presence of so many firearms. Turning to Mr. Houston, the prisoner said:

"I have returned all of your belongings now, Mister, you will let me off, won't you?"

"Oh, yes, you were so thoughtful in bringing all the stolen articles back," jestingly interposed the chief, "that it would be an injustice to hold you now."

Before Judge Crawford Verner pleaded guilty and was committed to jail in default of \$1,000 bail for his appearance before the grand jury.

The defendant is about 27 years of age. He lived in St. Louis before coming to Albuquerque.

Had Bank Account.

Sommers was in his seventy-second year and was possessed of some property. Besides a bank account of over \$2,500, he owned the several lots at the corner of Fourth street and Coal avenue, in addition to the house in which he lived. He lived entirely by himself and was of a very taciturn disposition, making confidants of no one and having very little to say. Mr. Baldridge was probably the only man who enjoyed his confidence.

When his effect in the house were examined, but very little clothing was found, and a purse, lying on the table, contained a cheap ring, a chain and \$2.90 in small change.

His will, which he left with Mr. Baldridge Tuesday, was examined this afternoon by that gentleman, and while its contents cannot be divulged until after the will has been filed in the probate court, enough was gathered from it and his papers to learn that he was formerly of Barnett Village, Vermont, and in his papers he requests that W. H. Burbank, of that place, be immediately notified in case of his death, as he will be also requested that J. C. Baldridge and Otto Diekmann act as administrators of his estate.

Was Very Reticent.

"He was of a very close-mouthed disposition," said Mr. Baldridge, "and seldom made confidants of any one. He evidently had been carefully planning the suicide, as he called upon me Tuesday, leaving \$35 and the keys to his house with me. I thought it strange at the time, that he should leave me his keys, but he never entered my mind."

"I called upon the old man yesterday afternoon," said W. W. Sleight, "and had a long chat with him, but he said nothing to lead me to believe that he contemplated suicide, although he did say that he feared he might become paralyzed some day, and added that he would rather be dead than paralyzed. I left his house about 4 o'clock in the afternoon, and as he was afterwards seen in the yard by Mrs. Richter, he must have committed the deed some time during the night."

An inquest was held over the body this afternoon in Bordue's undertaking parlors, but as it was a clear case of suicide, this was but a matter of form.

Additional Facts.

The coroner's report was a verdict to the effect that deceased came to his death as a result of a bullet wound inflicted by his own hands. The funeral will take place tomorrow afternoon, interment occurring in Fairview cemetery, in accordance with the wishes of the deceased, as expressed yesterday to Mr. Baldridge.

In his will the old man left \$1,500 to the country association of Bratleboro, Vt., in which town he was born, for the purpose of keeping up the family burial lot there, in which his father and mother are buried, but requested Mr. Diekmann to see that he was buried wherever he died, as became his station in life, meaning that he wanted a very plain burial.

Although the old man was an ex-federal soldier and drew a pension of

\$36 per quarter, he was not a member of the G. A. R. He had made application some time ago to be admitted to the soldiers' home at Santa Monica, Cal., but had received a reply to the effect that there were 600 applicants ahead of him. This, together with the fact that creeping paralysis had slowly been taking effect upon him the past three weeks, causing an impediment in his speech, and from which he evidently feared that he would soon become totally paralyzed, and worrying over his lonely condition, are supposed to be responsible for the rash act.

Together with \$35 he yesterday gave to Mr. Baldridge, and his pension vouchers, amounting to about \$100. Somers had certificates of deposits amounting to \$2,500, making a total, with the \$2.90 found in the room, of \$2,637.90 in cash, besides the four lots at the corner of Fourth street and Coal avenue. All of the money and property goes to relatives in the east. The will will be filed for probate Monday.

LOCAL PARAGRAPHS.

The Missionary society of the Presbyterian church will hold a meeting tomorrow afternoon at 2:30 o'clock in the home of Mrs. Cooper, 115 South Walter street. All are urged to be present.

W. H. Matson, Jr., whom The Citizen mentioned the other day as being here on a visit to his parents, Col. and Mrs. W. H. Matson, Sr., and brother, O. A. Matson, stated this morning that Albuquerque has made wonderful strides in "prosperity's ranks" since he was here about three years ago. He finds many strangers here and not a few old friends, whom he knew when he was the local railway agent, and all of them seem to be prospering. Mrs. Matson accompanied Mr. Matson to the city, but the lady has gone to Sunbury, Penn., to spend the holidays with her parents. After January 1 Mr. and Mrs. Matson will make their home in San Francisco, where Mr. Matson will represent the Mutual Life insurance company.

At the Newcomer store on South Second street the management has arranged a very novel and attractive Christmas display window. It portrays a range of snow-covered mountains dotted with small dwellings. At each side the base is pierced by a small railroad over which a car traverses at certain intervals and placarded "Santa's Special." "Newcomersville" is the station where the special is scheduled to stop, and its load of Christmas toys, according to a sign which appears by the right of way. Other familiar notices such as "Look out for the cars" and "Rip Van Winkle's house" are conspicuously posted.

Prof. Knox delivers his second lecture tonight at Elks' hall, on "How to Educate the Man, Woman and Child to Know Themselves." A number of children will be delineated and told what to follow to make a success. Saturday night school, "The Law of Adaptation," at 8 p. m. Seats free.

MENTAL SCIENCE LECTURE

Prof. Knox delivered his first lecture on "Mental Science" in this city last night at the Elks' opera house. A fair sized audience was present, as the lecture was free.

According to the professor, whose lecture last night was entitled "Health and How to Overcome Poverty and Accumulate Wealth," every man, woman and child can have all the riches they want, but the writer was not able to adequately grasp the idea sufficiently to wake up a millionaire this morning.

However, the professor brought out some very strong points in last night's lecture. "To gain wealth," he said, "one must quit the useless sighing for riches and study himself, develop his mind, and use his God-given talents, for wealth comes to the man who goes after it by thinking. Man must evolve his ideas from himself, not some one else. Edison would never have been a great inventor if he had not evolved ideas from his own mind. If you want to grow wealthy, healthy and wise, commence to THINK."

Prof. Knox will deliver his second lecture tonight at 8 o'clock in the opera house. Subject, "How to Educate the Man, Woman and Child to Know Themselves."

THE MAZE.

William Kieke, Proprietor.

NOTICE.

To the Public of Albuquerque and Vicinity: DR. D. S. MORRIS, the leading El Paso, Texas, expert graduated optician, has again arrived and will remain for a considerable time. His office is at The Englewood, room 18. So here is the very best opportunity for you and your children to have your glasses fitted to your eyesight, perfect in every respect. He is able to remedy almost any disease of the eye. He guarantees his glasses, free for five years. Children a specialty. His motto: "No benefit, no charge." Any person desiring Dr. Morris to call, please drop a postal card or telephone 402.

GRAND CLOSING OUT SALE

Our trade for November has so far exceeded our expectations, that we have found it necessary to duplicate our heavy purchases.

Commencing December 1, our store will be kept open evenings, and additional help added, to take care of the Christmas rush.

Make your selections early. Remember, I positively retire from the jewelry business January 1, and from now until December 31, I will make prices lower than ever offered on Fine Diamonds.

Watches, Jewelry, Rich Cut Glass, Handsome Printed China, Solid Silverware, Plated Silver Table ware, Clocks, and everything belonging in a first-class Jewelry store.

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SPANISH CONCERT WAS DELIGHTFUL

The Alejandro Rodriguez, Spanish Opera company, which opened a two weeks' engagement at Colombo hall last night, rendered a very good class of Spanish opera. The company has been having all kinds of hard luck here of late. After playing to poor business for a couple of weeks, they fell into El Paso just in time to have all their scenery and the larger part of their wardrobes burned up in a fire which destroyed the house they were playing in. Then some time later, the treasurer, in a moment of "frenzied finance," vanished for parts unknown, with what little remained of the bank roll. Aside from the fact that the scenery and costumes of the company show these marks of hard luck, the company is very fair.

An amusing feature of last night's performance in which the audience figured was the fact that at the end of the first half of the performance, several of the Mexican people who were present arose and departed. The American contingent of the audience, thinking of course that the performance was over, arose and departed also and soon the hall was almost empty, the Americans not learning until today that there was more to the show than the part they witnessed.

Interposed in the play of last night, which bears the name of "Chin-Chan-Chan," were several Spanish dances, which were very good, as was also the singing. The company will be seen tonight in a new bill. Prices of admission, 25c, 35c, 50c and 75c.

THE LID IS ON VERY TIGHT

IN ALBUQUERQUE THESE DAYS, SAYS SHERIFF ARMJO.

"The lid is on tight," said Sheriff Perfecto Armijo today to a representative of The Evening Citizen, when discussing the recent allegations made by several citizens that saloons were keeping open on the sly on Sunday. Sheriff Armijo is in earnest, and believes that what he says is true, but it is a well known fact that the saloon men are too shrewd to allow any policeman or sheriff to make use of the "little back door" on Sunday, and when some lover of the "flowing bowl" is seen coming out of the back yard of a saloon, hand in hand with a jag that paints the scenery of the alley through which he rambles, in roseate colors, and when he whispers on the q. t., "Shay, old man, there's certainly good booze in that dump," and knowingly knods his head toward the back door of a certain liquid refreshment booth, it gets people to thinking that maybe there's a leak in that lid that is "on tight."

Dance at Colombo Hall tomorrow night, postponed until next Friday, J. R. Scott.

CALL

On Dr. Monheit, the El Paso leading optician, and have your glasses fitted, with a guarantee for five years. At The Englewood, office room 18.

SATURDAY'S SPECIAL SALE.

2 lbs. fancy Creamery Butter.....55c
2 quarts Cranberries.....25c
3 pkgs. of Seedling Raisins.....25c
New Currants, per pkg.....25c
Last call for your Christmas turkey order. Our stock will be fine and prices reasonable.

2 boxes Christmas Tree Candles.....25c
Candied Citron Peel, per lb.....20c
Brigat, Crisp, Mixed Candy, lb.....15c
12½c grade of Peas, per can.....10c
We are showing a handsome line of chinaware. Make your Christmas selections early and avoid the rush sure to come in a few days.

New Mince Meat, per pkg.....9c
2 cans of Plums.....25c
2 cans of Grapes.....25c
2 pkgs. of Peas and 1 pkg. of Grapes.....25c
Nuts.....25c
Our doll stock was never larger, nicer nor cheaper than this year. See them today.

8 cans of Sardines.....25c
3 bottles of Chow-Chow.....25c
New Currants, per pkg.....11c
3 cans of Salmon.....25c
We carry seven sizes of toy wagons. Make the boy happy by buying him one.

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Bell phone, Red 271.
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Note--BY MAKING A SMALL DEPOSIT YOU CAN HAVE ANY FUR LAID ASIDE UNTIL XMAS.

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\$12 Refrigerators.....\$9
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\$8 China Tea Sets.....\$6
40c China Salad Bowls.....25c
Decorated Haviland China, at 20 per cent discount.
75c Glass Berry Sets.....25c
35c Glass Water Pitchers.....20c
\$1.75 Decorated Lamps.....\$1.25
\$4.50 Decorated Lamps.....\$3.25
\$1 Steam Cereal Cookers.....65c
50c Steam Egg Poachers.....40c
\$12.50 Buggy Harness.....\$10.50

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General housecleaning and job work promptly done.
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Carries the United States mail; only line with a change of stock en route; good rigs, horses and drivers; rig leaves Albuquerque every Monday.

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SEE OUR THREE SHOW WINDOWS.

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